



## Dog overpopulation

There is a humane solution to pet overpopulation. Spaying or neutering is good for your dog and good for your community. It makes them less likely to roam the neighborhood, run away, get into fights, and attack livestock. It's safe and will reduce their inclination to bite when not provoked. It benefits everyone to have your dog spayed or neutered.

When a dog population becomes a nuisance or a public danger, animal control officials are often called in to conduct "dog round-ups." The majority of dogs are destroyed – and it's not the dog's fault. This method is a strain on animal control officers and does not address the root of the problem.

## Navajo Nation Law

Some sections of the Navajo Nation Dog and Cat Control Ordinance regulations are listed here.

- Your dog must have a dog license and a rabies vaccination starting at three months of age. Both tags must be attached to a collar or harness – a \$50 penalty.
- It's unlawful for any person owning or having charge of any animals except a domestic house cat to permit the animal to run at large... – a \$50 penalty.
- Any person permitting a female dog in heat to run at large shall be cited into Tribal Court – a \$100 penalty.

## NHA policy

In order to protect housing residents and animals, the Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) also has animal regulations, including the following.

- Two pets per household
- All owners must abide by the Navajo Nation Dog and Cat Control Ordinance.
- The owner must show proof that the dogs have been properly vaccinated and retain their dogs within their yards or premises.



### Navajo Veterinary and Livestock Program

John Nelson Dee Building  
Navajo Nation Fair Grounds  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
928-871-6615



### Animal Control Services

ACO Manager, 928-871-7066  
Many Farms ACO, 928-781-4380 or 928-781-4380  
Shiprock Sr. ACO, 505-368-1235  
Tuba City Sr. ACO, 928-283-3089  
Fort Defiance Sr. ACO, 928-729-4023  
Crownpoint ACO, 505-786-2382



### Navajo Housing Authority

PO Box 4980  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515  
928-871-2600



### Navajo Area Indian Health Service (NAIHS)

P.O. Box 9020  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
Hwy 264 & St. Michael Road  
St. Michael, AZ 86511  
928-871-4811



**IFAW**  
International Fund  
for Animal Welfare  
[www.ifaw.org](http://www.ifaw.org)



### Veterinary Clinics:

Shiprock Veterinary Clinic, 505-368-1007  
Window Rock Veterinary Clinic, 928-871-6615  
Chinle Veterinary Clinic, 928-674-2069

## Navajo Nation Animal and Community Health Project



*In the beginning, the  
dog was created to protect  
us and our homes and to  
look after our herds . . .*





# All Living Things Live and Work With One Another



*... and the people's relationship with the animals is one of reciprocity; the animals will provide wealth and sustenance in return for care and protection.*

The interconnection between animals and people is clear and is satisfied through a reciprocal relationship. In return for adequate guardianship, one will gain a lifelong partnership as well as protection and support, according to nature's way. The provision of care for one's animals begins with each individual. Such care includes:

- Giving food, water and shelter
- Containing them properly
- Giving them regular vaccinations
- Keeping them healthy with regular veterinary checkups and deworming
- Keeping them free of fleas and ticks
- Spaying or neutering to prevent overpopulation
- Providing them with a dog license and collar



## A Healthy Community and a Safe Community

The care of one's animals begins with each individual. As individuals supply these provisions, the entire community will benefit. We will have healthy communities when we do our part.



## Containing your dog

Roaming dogs are usually owned animals that their owners let run loose. This is unlawful and causes problems in our communities. Roaming dogs can attack our livestock and bite our neighbors, especially our children. They are often hit by cars and left to die on the roads. These injured dogs suffer greatly and are sad for our children to see. When we take the responsibility of containing our dogs at home, we decrease the chances of these terrible incidents.

If your dog does get loose, something as small as a collar and ID tag can make a big difference. A collar also ensures that the dog doesn't suffer from rope or wires cutting into its neck when tied up. It helps distinguish strays from owned animals - and perhaps most importantly, it says "someone cares for me." It can be the difference between life and death.



## Disease spread

Diseases like rabies, parvovirus and distemper can be fatal, and can spread like wildfire through dog populations. Prevention, such as providing a series of vaccinations to puppies and kittens and yearly vaccinations for adults, is cheaper than treating a disease.

## Worms and parasites

Dogs and cats can get infected by worms. They can be spread to other animals and to people, including our children. Routine de-worming of your dog or cat is a simple way to help keep our animals and children healthy. Symptoms in people can be as small as a simple rash but can turn into a life-threatening situation.

Fleas, mites and ticks can also spread disease. A topical application is the best preventative approach. This may be as simple as giving a pill and a monthly flea and tick control application. This is a relatively small effort with enormous benefits to all!

